

Order of Operations

1. Excel follows a set of rules known as the Order of Operations.
2. The Order of Operations says formulas are calculated from left to right in this order:
 1. parenthesis ()
 2. exponents (^)
 3. multiplication and division (* /)
 4. addition and subtraction (+ -)

3. Here's how it matters:

$2+2+2 = 8$ add from left to right (=8)

$2=4/2 = 4$ divide 4 by 2 first, then add 2 (=4)

$(2+4)/2 = 3$ the parentheses come first – so add 2+4, then divide by 2 (=3)